

# Colorado Judicial Performance

## Attorneys Regarding Trial Judges Survey Questions

- Which of the following types of cases have you observed Judge (Last Name)’s performance? Please circle all that apply. *(Only respondents who indicate they have observed the judge in “criminal other than traffic” cases will be asked question 2c and question 6.)*

Civil..... 1  
 Criminal other than traffic ..... 2  
 Traffic..... 3  
 Domestic..... 4  
 Juvenile..... 5  
 Probate ..... 6  
 Other ..... 9

### 1. Case Management:

- |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |       |
|----|--|---|---|---|---|---|-------|
| a. | Promptly issuing a decision on the case after trial. | A | B | C | D | F | DK/NS |
| b. | Maintaining appropriate control over proceedings.    | A | B | C | D | F | DK/NS |
| c. | Promptly ruling on pre-trial motions.                | A | B | C | D | F | DK/NS |
| d. | Setting reasonable schedules for cases.              | A | B | C | D | F | DK/NS |

### 2. Application and Knowledge of Law:

- |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |       |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|-------|
| a. | Being able to identify and analyze relevant facts.                                      | A | B | C | D | F | DK/NS |
| b. | Basing decisions on evidence and arguments.   | A | B | C | D | F | DK/NS |
| c. | Willing to reconsider error in fact or law.   | A | B | C | D | F | DK/NS |
| d. | <i>[Criminal only]</i> Issuing consistent sentences when the circumstances are similar. | A | B | C | D | F | DK/NS |

### 3. Communications:

- |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |       |
|----|--|---|---|---|---|---|-------|
| a. | Makings sure all participants understand the proceedings.                    | A | B | C | D | F | DK/NS |
| b. | Providing written communications that are clear, thorough and well reasoned. | A | B | C | D | F | DK/NS |

### 4. Demeanor:

- |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |       |
|----|--|---|---|---|---|---|-------|
| a. | Giving proceedings a sense of dignity.                   | A | B | C | D | F | DK/NS |
| b. | Treating participants with respect.                      | A | B | C | D | F | DK/NS |
| c. | Conducting <i>his/her</i> courtroom in a neutral manner. | A | B | C | D | F | DK/NS |
| d. | Consistently applying laws and rules.                    | A | B | C | D | F | DK/NS |

### 5. Diligence:

- |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |       |
|----|--|---|---|---|---|---|-------|
| a. | Using good judgment in application of relevant law and rules.                                  | A | B | C | D | F | DK/NS |
| b. | Doing the necessary “homework” and being prepared for <i>his/her</i> cases.                    | A | B | C | D | F | DK/NS |
| c. | Being willing to handle cases on the docket even when they are complicated and time consuming. | A | B | C | D | F | DK/NS |

6. Having observed Judge (Last Name) in a criminal case, would you say the judge is: *(This question is asked only if respondent indicated at the beginning of the survey he/she observed the judge in a criminal case.)*

Very biased in favor of the prosecution ..... 1  
Somewhat biased in favor of the prosecution..... 2  
Completely Neutral..... 3  
Somewhat biased in favor of the defense..... 4  
Very biased in favor of the defense..... 5  
Don't Know/Not Sure..... 9

7. What would you say are Judge (Last Name)'s strengths?

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- 8a. What would you say are Judge (Last Name)'s weaknesses?

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9. Keeping in mind your responses to each of the previous questions, how strongly do you recommend that Judge (Last Name) be retained in office, or not retained in office?

Strongly recommend he be retained in office..... 5  
Somewhat recommend he be retained in office..... 4  
Undecided or don't know enough to make recommendation..... 3  
Somewhat recommend he not be retained in office..... 2  
Strongly recommend he not be retained in office ..... 1